

**James Madison to James Madison, Sr., January 23, 1778. Transcription: The Writings of James Madison, ed. Gaillard Hunt. New York: G.P. Putnam's Sons, 1900-1910.**

**TO JAMES MADISON. MAD. MSS.**

Williamsburg Jany 23d 1778

Hond Sir, —I got safe to this place on Tuesday following the day I left home, and at the earnest invitation of my kinsman Mr. Madison<sup>1</sup> have taken my lodgings in a Room of the Presidents house, which is a much better accomodation than I could have promised myself. It would be very agreeable to me if I

<sup>1</sup> Rev. James Madison, President of William and Mary.

were enabled by such varieties as our part of the Country furnishes, particularly dried fruit & & which Mr. Madison is very fond of to make some little returns for the culinary favours I receive. Should any opportunity for this purpose offer I hope they will be sent. You will see by the inclosed Acct. of Sales what money you have in Mr. Lee's hands, and if you chuse to draw for it, you can transmit me your Bills for sale— You will be informed in due time by Advertisement from the Governor what is proper to be done with the Shoes & & collected for the Army. You will be able to obtain so circumstantial an acct. of public affairs from Majr. Moore that I may save myself the trouble of anticipating it—Majr. Moore also has for my Mother 14 oz of Bark—The other Articles wanted by the family are not at present to be had. When ever I meet with them I shall provide and transmit them. I hope you will not forget my parting request that I might hear frequently from home, and whenever my brother<sup>1</sup> returns from the Army I desire he may be informed. I shall expect he will make up

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by letter the loss of intelligence I sustain by my removal out of his way. With the sincerest affection for yourself & all others who I ought particularly to remember on this occasion.

1 Ambrose Madison, four years younger than James, joined the army at the outbreak of hostilities.

I am Dear Sir your Affectn. son

I find on enquiry that Mr. Benjamin Winslow is discontinued in the military appointment given him by the Governour & Council. I promised to let him know this by letter but my being as yet unprovided with paper makes it necessary to leave this information for him with you. J. M Jr

Although I well know how inconvenient and disagreeable it is to you to continue to act as Lieutenant of the County<sup>1</sup> I cannot help informing you that a resignation at this juncture is here supposed to have a very unfriendly aspect on the execution of the Draught and consequently to betray at least a want of patriotism and perseverance. This is so much the case that a recommendation of Cony Lt. this day received by the Govr., to supply the place of one who had resigned to the Court, produced a private verbal message to the old Lt. to continue to act at least as long as the present measures were in execution.

1 “His father was still the county lieutenant of Orange; but having reached an age when the duties of the office were felt to be burdensome to declining years, he wished to relieve himself of them in favor of a successor, who should be younger and more capable of exertion.”—Rives, i., 191.

J M Jr